HOSPITALS' GRAND OPERA WEEK

In aid of

The Ulster Hospital for Children and Women

The Mater Infirmorum Hospital

The Young Philanthropists

THE DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

LA TRAVIATA

Guiseppi Verdi

II TROVATORE

Guiseppi Verdi

FAUST

Charles Gounod

Guiseppi Verdi

RIGOLETTO

with

GWEN CATLEY VICTORIA SLADEN RUTH PACKER PATRICIA BLACK FULL ORCHESTRA & CHORUS OF THE DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

JAMES JOHNSTON IVAN DIXON FRANK SALE RODERICK JONES VERE LAURIE JOHN LYNSKEY DERMOT BROWNER

CONDUCTORS: COMDT. J. M. DOYLE, Mus. Bac., ARTHUR HAMMOND

ORCHESTRA LEADER: TERRY O'CONNOR

Souvenir

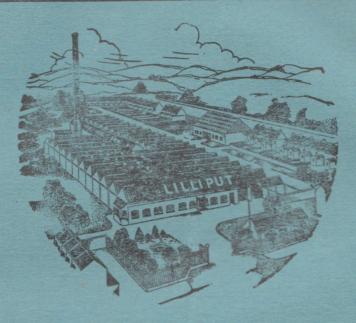


Programme

ROYAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST

16th-21st SEPTEMBER, 1946

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THE Young Philanthropists welcome the DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY to our City.

We consider it a great privilege to sponsor this short season of Grand Opera by a Society whose reputation stands on a high pinnacle throughout the land.

We acknowledge our indebtedness to the CHAIRMAN (Comdt. W. O'Kelly) and the COMMITTEE of the Dublin Grand Opera Society for their ready response to our invitation, and the whole-hearted manner in which they have arranged for their talented company to provide such worthy presentations of world-tenowned operas.

We welcome our distinguished Guest Artistes, and feel justified in specially mentioning our own JAMES JOHNSTON. It was with feelings of great pride that we learned of his success with Sadlers Wells Opera Company, and are particularly pleased that his visit here this week should be with the Society in which he made his Grand Opera Debut.

We take this opportunity of thanking that Great Personality of the Irish Theatre—MR, G. L. BIRCH of the ROYAL HIPPODROME. His unfailing courtesy, helpful advice and encouragement has been of inestimable value to us in this great venture.

To our PATRONS—we say THANKS! You have made this Week a wonderful success by the support which you have given. We sincerely hope you have enjoyed the Performances, and know you join us in the happy thought that the ULSTER HOSPITAL FOR CHILD-REN AND WOMEN and THE MATER INFIRMORUM HOSPITAL will benefit considerably.

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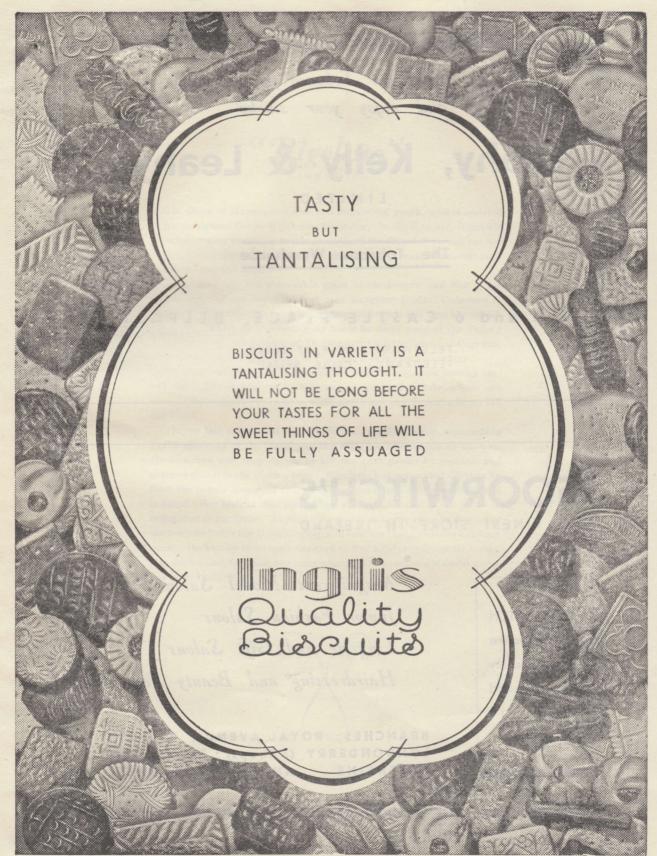
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THE Duke of Mantua is a wild and debauched youth, who is assisted in his dissipated life by Rigoletto, his jester. In the first act, Rigoletto is found helping the Duke to win the wife of the Count Ceprano, but her father, Count Monterone, appears in the midst of a feast and curses both Rigoletto and the Duke.

Rigoletto has one vulnerable point in his armour and that is his tender love for his beautiful and pure daughter Gilda. Unknown to Rigoletto, the Duke has been serenading Gilda, and has won her confidence. One night as Rigoletto goes home he finds some of the Duke's men abducting a young woman. Thinking that it is the Countess Ceprano, he gleefully assists them only to find that it is his own daughter.

Gilda is taken to the Duke's palace, where Rigoletto follows her, but she implores him not to take vengeance on the Duke, whom she loves. Rigoletto is not to be put off, and hires one Sparafucile to kill the Duke.

In the last act we find Sparafucile's sister, Maddalena, succumbing to the advances of the Duke, and she begs her brother not to kill him. He consents, and they decide to kill the next passer-by instead, and pretend that it is the Duke's body. Rigoletto has persuaded Gilda to fly from the palace disguised as a man, and she is the next passer-by and is killed. Her body is then placed in a sack and handed to the jester as being that of the Duke. As Rigoletto proceeds to the river to dispose of the body he hears the Duke singing, and realises that a mistake has been made. He hastily tears open the sack to find his dying daughter inside, and with a last frenzied cry remembers that Monterone's awful curse has been fulfilled.



Wednesday,	18th and Friday, 20th September at 7.30 p.m.
	PICOLETTO
	RIGOLETTO
	(Guiseppe Verdi)
	about the large song to the <u>cart to a title</u> that means the cart is a second
	Dramatis Personæ
THE DUE	TE OF MANTUA IVAN DIXON
	o, his jester, a hunchback RODERICK JONES
	EPRANO, a noble BRENDAN ROBERTS
	ONTERONE, a noble DERMOT BROWNER
	DERMOT BROWNER
	the Duke's service THOMAS J. SYNNOT
MARULLO	WILLIAM O'KELLY
Countess	CEPRANO LILY DOYLE
	sughter of Rigoletto GWEN CATLEY
	her duenna KITTY VAUGHAN
	NA, Sparafucile's sister PATRICIA BLACK
	in the Duke's service MAURA MOONEY
	Courtiers, Nobles, Etc.
	Tooking to Balls, Tite.
	CONDUCTOR: ARTHUR HAMMOND
(OPERA PRODUCED BY SYDNEY RUSSELL
First produced	Fenice Theatre, Venice, 11th March, 1851. Words by Francesco Maria Piave,
rounded on Vic	ctor Hugo's play, "Le Roi S'Amuse" Time: 16th Century Place: Mantua

RIGOLETTO

Synopsis of Scenery

ACT I.

Scene 1—The Throne Room in the Duke's Palace Scene 2—The Courtyard of Rigoletto's House

ACT II.

A Salon in the Duke's Palace

ACT III.

Outside the House of Sparafucile

The Perigordino in Act I. danced by Eileen Kane and Patricia O'Hagan

Musical Director, Comdt. J. M. Doyle, Mus.B.

Stage Director, Mr. Sydney Russell

Chorus Mistress, Miss Julia Gray

Stage Manager, Mr. T. Daly

Stage Electrician, Mr. Chas. Morrison

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